

# How Uncontrolled Immigration Impacts U.S. Workers

**[“Immigration and the American Worker: A Review of the Academic Literature”](#)** (report by Dr. George Borjas, professor of economics at the Harvard Kennedy School):

“The immigration surplus [benefits that accrue to natives rather than to immigrants themselves] comes from reducing the wages of natives in competition with immigrants by an estimated \$402 billion a year, while increasing profits [of businesses that rely on immigrant labor] by an estimated \$437 billion...

Immigration has its largest negative impact on the wage of native workers who did not graduate from high school, a group that makes up a modest (and, in recent decades, shrinking) share of the workforce. However, these workers are among the poorest Americans... Although native-born high school dropouts may make up a small fraction of the native-born population, they are particularly vulnerable to the adverse wage effects of immigration.”

**[“Immigrant Gains and Native Losses”](#)** (Center for Immigration Studies report by Steve Camarota, July 2013):

“From the first quarter of 2000 to the first quarter of 2013, the number of natives working actually fell by 1.3 million while the overall size of the working-age (16 to 65) native population increased by 16.4 million. Over the same time period, the number of immigrants working (legal and illegal) increased by 5.3 million... [In other words,] none of the net growth in employment among the working-age has gone to natives.”

**[“Immigration Bill a Disaster for Unemployed”](#)** (op-ed by Peter Kirsanow, Commissioner, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights):

“The assurances of the [Gang of Eight] bill’s proponents that the bill will somehow help the economy obscure copious evidence that the bill will wreak enormous damage to the employment prospects of American workers who have already seen their wages and employment rates plummet over the last several years.

Not only will the bill grant amnesty to 11 million illegal immigrants, it will act as a magnet for future illegal immigration and substantially increase the number of legal immigrants. It is conservatively estimated that the bill will result in 30 million to 33 million additional immigrants over the next 10 years.”

“If this bill becomes law, there is one likely outcome for low-skilled [workers]: Disaster.”

**[“The STEM Crisis Is a Myth”](#)** (op-ed by Robert Charette, contributing editor for the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers magazine):

“Companies would rather not pay STEM professionals high salaries with lavish benefits, offer them training on the job, or guarantee them decades of stable employment. So having an oversupply of workers, whether domestically educated or imported, is to their benefit... [in part because] it helps keep wages in check...

Viewed another way, about 15 million U.S. residents hold at least a bachelor’s degree in a STEM discipline, but three-fourths of them—11.4 million—work outside of STEM... If there is in fact a STEM worker shortage, wouldn’t you expect more people with STEM degrees to be filling those jobs?”